

# World War 2 Knowledge Mat

## Sticky Knowledge- What do I need to know?

**Week 1** World War 2 was a battle between two groups of countries - the 'Allies' and the 'Axis'. In 1933, Adolf Hitler rose to power as the political leader of Germany. Germany invaded Poland. Britain declared war on 3rd September 1939.

**Week 2** The Blitz was a series of bombing raids on the UK. The bombing left a lot of devastation in cities, buildings and homes were damaged and many people were injured or killed.

**Week 3** The prime minister Chamberlain appeased Hitler by creating a policy of appeasement - this was an agreement between the two politicians. In this lesson we will debate whether we think Chamberlain was right to follow the policy.

**Week 4** Due to the war children were evacuated from the cities to the countryside to protect them from potential bomb attacks. This movement saw vulnerable children being relocated to areas deemed safer and less likely to be at risk of bombing.

**Week 5** This week we will be visited by Mrs Hepple who was an evacuee in World War 2. Mrs Hepple was separated from her family in Liverpool and was moved to the countryside to stay safe.

**Week 6** World war 2 impacted people in our local area as well as across the UK. We can see from memorials in our locality the effect the dispute had.

## Key Vocabulary- What words do I need to know and understand?

**Allies** Countries which fought on the British side including USA, Great Britain, France and Russia.

**Axis** Countries which fought on the German side including Italy, Germany and Japan.

**evacuation** Organised movement of children and the vulnerable from towns and cities to safe zones.

**evacuee** A person/child evacuated from a place of danger.

**relocated** To move to a new place and establish one's home or business there.

**Anderson shelter** Anderson shelters were made from corrugated steel or iron panels that formed a semi-circular shape. They were designed to be dug into people's gardens to protect families from air raids.

**rationing** Rationing is the controlled distribution of scarce resources and goods. Rationing controls the size of the ration, which is one's allowed portion of the resources being distributed on a particular day or at a particular time.

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<b>Week 7</b>	Britain was able to stand strong against the German threat because of the forward thinking and planning of the political leaders. They had a strong defensive army, powerful weapons, they implemented evacuation and the use of shelters and importantly later in the years of the war the UK introduced rationing.
<b>Week 8</b>	During the war Christmas was very different, there was a shortage of food which meant celebrations were minimal and presents were handmade due to factories working hard to create artillery and weapons.
<b>Week 9</b>	This week we will look at a timeline of events and compare and contrast what life was like during the years of 1939 and 1945.
<b>Week 10</b>	Women played a very important role during the years in the wartime. Women were given significant roles such as factory workers, mechanics, engineers, farmers and teachers whilst the men were away at war. This had a big impact on society.
<b>Week 11</b>	In week 11 we will recap our knowledge gained in previous year groups about the battles which have occurred in periods of history, such as Anglo Saxons, Vikings and Roman periods.
<b>Week 12</b>	We will use our knowledge from last week to compare and contrast when the most dangerous time in history was to live. We will debate the reasons for our choices using the evidence collected last week.

## Key Vocabulary- What words do I need to know and understand?

<b>appeasement</b>	Instituted in the hope of avoiding war, appeasement was the name given to Britain's policy in the 1930s of allowing Hitler to expand German territory unchecked. Most closely associated with British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain, it is now widely discredited as a policy of weakness.
<b>defensive</b>	The army was strong and able to defend Great Britain. Defensive means 'used or intended to defend or protect'.
<b>victory</b>	An achievement of mastery or success in a struggle or endeavor against odds or difficulties. The victory of the war was winning.
<b>Home Front</b>	The civilian population and activities of a nation whose armed forces are engaged in war abroad. E.g "the second world war was drawing local medical staff away from the home front"
<b>artillery</b>	Artillery is a class of heavy military ranged weapons that launch munitions far beyond the range and power of infantry firearms.
<b>VE Day</b>	Victory Day is a holiday that commemorates the victory over Nazi Germany in 1945. It was first inaugurated in the 15 republics of the Soviet Union, following the signing of the German Instrument of Surrender late in the evening on 08 May 1945 only.